

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Mike Lang, on January 28, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Lang, Chair (R)
Rep. Tom Steenberg, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Tom Berry (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Ryan Lynch (D)
Rep. David (Doc) Moore (R)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Andrew Person (D)
Rep. Randall Pinocci (R)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)
Rep. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Tom Richmond (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division, (LSD)

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 252, 1/23/2015; SB 11, 1/23/2015

00:00:02 Chairman Lang
[EXHIBIT\(feh19a01\)](#)
00:01:05 Chairman Lang
00:01:21 Rep. Pinocci left the hearing

HEARING ON SB 11

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:37 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 11, Revise universal system benefits laws to exempt small electric utilities.
00:02:30 Rep. Zolnikov entered the hearing

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:23 Travis Kavulla, Public Service Commission (PSC)
[EXHIBIT\(feh19a02\)](#)
00:07:44 Tom Ebzery, Avista Corporation
00:09:42 Mike Green, Black Hills Power
00:10:51 Art Noonan, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:11:43 Nick Hill, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)
[EXHIBIT\(feh19a03\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:12:30 Sen. Keane

HEARING ON HB 252

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:35 Rep. Kelly McCarthy (D), HD 49, opened the hearing on HB 252, Revise laws related to the uses of the research and commercialization account.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:18:13 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation and Montana Stock Growers Association, (MFBF) (MSGA)
00:20:44 Dave Desch, Montana Department of Commerce (COM)
00:22:21 Jim Davison, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)
00:23:14 Rep. Pinocci entered the hearing
00:25:14 Richard Parks, Northern Plains Research Council (NPRC)
[EXHIBIT\(feh19a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:45	Rep. Steenberg
00:27:18	Rep. McCarthy
00:28:17	Rep. D. Moore
00:28:40	Rep. McCarthy
00:29:31	Rep. Welborn
00:29:52	Rep. McCarthy
00:30:03	Dave Desch, COM
00:30:56	Chairman Lang
00:31:07	Dave Desch, COM
00:31:28	Chairman Lang
00:31:42	Dave Desch, COM
00:32:05	Rep. Pope
00:32:34	Dave Desch, COM
00:33:24	Chairman Lang
00:33:43	Rep. McCarthy
00:33:58	Chairman Lang
00:34:50	Rep. McCarthy
00:35:20	John Youngberg, MFBF and MSGA
00:36:04	Rep. Custer
00:36:44	Rep. McCarthy
00:38:18	Chairman Lang

Closing by Sponsor:

00:39:04	Rep. McCarthy
00:39:40	Chairman Lang

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 00:40:26

Jessica Riffel, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh19aad.pdf](#))